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BOOK REVIEWS.

THE LAW OF BANKRUPTCY. By EDWIN C. BRANDENBURG. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1898.

Any new treatise on the National Bankruptcy Law of 1898 naturally and necessarily challenges comparison with the already numerous books on the subject, and especially with that of William M. Collier (Bender, 1898), which is much the most satisfactory effort to treat the subject that has come to the notice of the writer of this review. There are some details, at least, in which Brandenburg has improved somewhat on his predecessor. They both recognize the necessity of printing at length the corresponding sections of the Act of 1867; but Brandenburg has inserted the required sections immediately after the sections of the Act of 1898, to which they are comparable, thus assisting the practitioner more than Collier, who reprints the Act of 1867 only as a whole at the end of his treatise. It probably is wiser, too, to subdivide the sections according to their clauses, allowing each clause to be followed by the notes immediately pertaining to it. Collier's method of combining all the notes at the close of each section makes it occasionally difficult to ascertain just which notes refer to any given clause. Of course, too, it goes without saying, that Brandenburg gains by postponing his publication until the rules and forms had been announced by the Supreme Court. This advantage, however, can readily be regained by Collier upon the publication of the second edition.

When the reviewer has mentioned these points, however, he has said all that can properly be said in favor of the later book. In its general treatment of the important problems of substantive law involved in the interpretation of the bankrupt law, Brandenburg has not by any means appreciated his opportunity. Evidently a great deal of time and care has been devoted to the preparation of his works, as is amply proved by the very full and elaborate notes, but the result is in a somewhat crude and undigested form, painfully suggesting to the consecutive reader a digest rather than a text book. The cases are, perhaps, all referred to, but in such a way that it is almost impossible to tell which are the leading cases, and especially is this true where the authorities are conflicting. If the conflict is noticed at all, there is certainly no assistance given to the reader by means of comparison of the authorities—much less by an expression of the author's opinion—in arriving at the proper conclusion. This criticism might be illustrated from any of the more important sections of the act; among others by the following, selected almost at random: § 2, page 22, where the important question of the authority of the district court over liens is hardly noticed (see page 22); § 3, where fraudulent convey-

ances, preference, insolvency and intent, the fundamental problems of the law are inadequately treated; § 63, b, in which the propriety of proving claims arising out of mere torts is apparently not dreamed of; and § 67, f, where the author throws no light upon the interpretation of the apparent conflict between the clause, and clause C of the same section.

On the whole, after the really entertaining and suggestive treatment by Collier of the same subject, the study of the book seemed comparatively dry and unprofitable.

R. D. B.

THE LAW OF EVIDENCE. By SIDNEY L. PHIPSON, M. A. (Cantab.) of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law. Second Edition. London: Stevens & Haynes. 1898.

The author of this volume has tried to fill the gap between Stephen's Digest of the Law of Evidence and the great and complete work on Evidentiary Law by Taylor. The analysis and arrangement of the subject matter are very similar to those made by Stephen. The first edition came out in 1892. In the edition before us the chapter on the Admissibility of Extrinsic Evidence to Affect Documents has been much amplified and remodeled; and certain extraneous topics dealt with in Taylor have been purposely omitted. The volume is especially valuable and useful for the complete list of cases, brought down to January, 1898, and forming practically a complete digest of English and Irish Decisions on Evidence. It also contains an index of the subject-matter and the titles of all the principal English statutes. The volume is the ordinary size and contains about 600 pages.

P. D. I. M.

THE FACTORY ACTS. By the late ALEXANDER REDGRAVE, C. B., Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Factories. Seventh Edition. By JASPER A. REDGRAVE and H. S. SCRIVENER, M. A. London: Shaw & Sons; Butterworth & Co. 1898.

The seventh edition of Redgrave's Factory Acts will prove of renewed value to the British practitioner whose duties lead him to consult the complicated Acts of Parliament in relation to the regulation of factories and workshops. The book opens with an introduction giving the history of legislation on the subject, and then follow the statutes now in force, which are in most instances set forth at length, with copious annotations and references to cases. The index is a ready guide to the mass of information contained in the work. Americans who are concerned with the question of factory regulation in its many phases will find that this well-edited volume indicates in a clear and systematic manner how the problem has been treated in a country where much serious thought has been devoted to it.

T. S. W.